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THE TIMES STILL GAINING.

Figures That Lie-How the Star Mis Baturday's Star announced that its circulation was "many thousands in excess of any other Washington paper and is believed

to be fally five times that of any afternoon contemporary." This falsification is easy to expose.

The daily average circulation of The

Times for the six days on which the Star bases its calculation was 33,367; that of the Star was 28,650. For the sake of the argument, let us admit that the Star has five times the circulation of our evening edition. One-fifth the circulation of the Star is 5,367. Subtract that amount from 33,367, the average of The Times, and 27,637 is left to represent the circulation of our morning edition. Compare that amount with the 28,650 which the Star faisely claims, is "many thou-sands in excess of any other Washington

paper," and you will see that its figures lie. The aggregate circulation of the Star last week was 171,901. That of The Times was 223,776. The Star gained 1,424 in circulation during the week and The Times added 7,751 to its list.

These figures should be satisfactory proof as to which is the most popular newspaper, and should also demonstrate to advertisers where they can obtain best results. The Times is in the lead and will stay

there, because it is the best daily in Wash-

Monday, Sept. 30	32,530
Wednesday,Oct. 2	33,331
Thursday, Oct. 3	33,118
Saturday, Oct. 5	23,571
Total	223,776

rect statement of the daily circulation of THE WASHINGTON TIMES for the week ending October 6, 1895, and that all the copies were actually sold or mailed for a valuable consideration and delivered to bena fide purchasers or subscribers; also, that none of them were returned or

ano, that home of them were returned or remain in the office undelivered. 5. MILTON YOUNG, Cashier. 8abscribed and sworn to before me this 7ta day of October, A. D. 1895. ERNEST G. THOMPSON. Notary Public.

THE HOLT WILL MYSTERY:

The sketch of Orlan C. Cullen, published elsewhere, may not throw any additional light on the Holt will mystery, but it will at least confirm the impression that he is a peculiar young man. Perhaps he should not be blamed for having tried to sell his romance by piecemeal to a number of newspapers, or for having withheld the information of his alleged discovery of such an important document from the heirs of the Holt estate. But most honorable persons would not have endeavored to use property that did not belong to him for speculative purposes. Nor would they have kept the public in suspense concerning a mystery that was in their power to reveal.

It may be possible that Mr. Cullen has found the Holt will. If so he should immediately turn the evidence of his discovery over to the beirs and not try to make it a question of bargain and sale. The chances are, however, that he is mistaken, and that another Munchausen tale has been added to the chapter of fiction of which he is the hero. His statement that a man from a Washington newspaper had spent three days with him at the springs in a vain attempt to get the story is a fable that should go on record with the Sackville garn, for our local papers have money enough to purchase such stories if they believe them to be genuine.

As a matter of fact Cullen's story is susceptible of proof, especially in the light of his former career, and it would be well to so consider until he substantiates with something besides his own statement

SUBSIDIES AND GUARANTEES.

Sir Audley Coote is in San Francisco in the interest of a cable scheme between the United States, Honolulu and Australia. and is preparing to make a descent upon Washington when Congress meets for the purpose of securing a guarantee of the intorest upon \$1,000,000 of bonds to be is sued to pay the cost of construction.

Bir Audiey is far modester than the Nicaraguan canal schemes. He only wants the interest guaranteed, and naively adds that if the cable makes \$49,000 the first year the government will only have to pay \$1.000.

For cool impudence the proposition, small as is the sum involved has not been known since the days of Union Pacific construc tion, unless its counterpart may be found in the colossal demands of the great Central American capalers.

an utter rejection of all such requests in the minds of honest men. To those who subsidy and guarantee ples, arguments will avail nothing. It is enough to ay that in all such partnerships with individual or corporative speculators the government has been skinned, swindled, buncoed, robbed-If Congress wants to invest in such scheme It should concieve, execute, pay for and have

absolute control and ownership of the structure, whatever it may be. The Sir MADAGASCAR'S QUEER QUEEN Audier Cootes and the Hon. Warner Millers should be shown the way out of the loors of the Capitol.

PLUCK-ME STORES.

It will be cheering information to all humane and decent people to learn that in at least one great industrial region, the Pittsburg mining districts, "company," or "pluck-me stores," are about to be abolished by arrangement between work-

men and employers. No more infamous abuse was ever permitted in a civilized country than these stores whose proprietors forced workmen to spend practically all of their wages for ood and clothing at such prices as the companies chose to levy. Corrective or prohibitory law never seemed to effect their operation.

The terms of the agreement are that after January 1 no operator, mine manager, clerk or any other official connected with a mine, shall operate a store for the pur pose of forcing miners to deal there. All iners must thereafter be paid in cash. The operators are kindly given until Jap uary 1 to dispose of their stores.

This great reform has been accomplis wholly by the thorough organization and intelligent action of the miners who have been actually held in a condition of slavery by the confiscation of their wage through the medium of the pluck-me stores They waited for remedial legislation in vain from Pennsylvania law makers. Their victory over this long standing abuse is one which will give impetus to similar reform wherever the pluck-me stores are

JUDGE DALY'S INFLUENCE.

That was a remarkable explanation gives by Gen. Greely last evening on the reason why the next meeting of the International Geographical Congress was not secured for Washington. It is, to a word, that when a full majority of delegates favored Wash ington, Judge Daly, of New York, claiming to represent the National Geographical Sc ciety, declared that America was not ready for the Congress; that if it were, Washington was not the place for it, and if Washington were selected, the society would have noth ing to do with the meeting.

This was a gratuitous insult to Justice Harlan, Gen. Greely, and other eminent Americans who supported the claims of Washington, and a gross libel upon the cap ital of the country, where there is concentrated all that is most interesting in America to those who are devoted to research in the field discussed by the world's geographical scientists.

It may be safely assumed that Judge Daly did not voice the sentiments of the National Geographical Society, but that he was at flicted with a sudden spleen of jealousy on account of some lack of recognition which he thought was due to him. Certainly he was in no way competent to speak for Washington, and his assertion that Amer ica was not ready for such a Congress was a slur upon his own country, which was as appatriotic as it was untrue.

AT LAST HE COMES.

After many months of waiting it is an nounced that President Cleveland has sailed for Washington and his post of duty upon the magnificent steamer yacht Oncida, the property of multi-Millionaire Benedict. Mr. Thurber also tells the public that Mr. Cleveland will travel all the way by sea, a feat which has never been undertaken, of course, on account of lack of courage, by any other President. They will bug the shore closely, however, and, in case Old Neptune shows an ugly disposition, will quickly run to safe harbor.

Whether this desperate determination on the part of Thurber and Cleveland to co what no other President has ever accomplished was the basis of the thrilling report of attempted assassination, which was sent out by a press association that makes a specialty of reporting yacht races, cannot be positively asserted. Really, if there were any threat of violence in the performance at all it would appear to have more of the complexion of attempted suicide by the terrible weapon of sea sickness.

The important feature of the matter h that the President will be here soon, i the Oneida does not go to the bottom of the sea, and then Spain and Great Britain may expect to hear something drop. Mr. Thurber is authority for the statement that the President has not given his whole mind to fishing, but a great deal of it to think ing, and knowing the character of the man the country will expect great results.

To be now a prestion of which can de the most talking-the authorities at Ho Springs or Corbett and Fitzsimmons.

Marriage was a failure and so was "Th

Ouick and the Dead." If Gen. Campos could only make Cubar onditions fit his interviews he would be

entitled to a scat in the peace congress. Since Miss Chesnic has shown the advantage of a pistol pocket in bloomers we may soon expect to see the new woman

in politics.

Every time Sackville's name is mentioned it brings to mind the story of the boy who held the bag for the snipe driver.

Open hearts and open pocketbooks are the sesame to happiness at Atlanta.

The finding of so many wild men suggests the thought that possibly some of our Presidential candidates may be

"The pen is mightier than the bail box" is the way it is now written at the White House.

Growth of the Postal System. A hundred years ago the post-office car ried only 2,000 pieces of mail a day. Now there are more than 9,000 letters and packages dropped into the mails every minute. In 1892 there were handled 15,000,000 pieces. The registry letter system has been vastly developed, so that only one letter in every 15,000 pieces of matter ever goes astray and becomes lost. As far back as three years ago it was estimated that the letter carriers of Uncle Sam delivered in a year 5,500,000 registered letters, 1,335,000,000 other letters 275,000,000 postal cards, and 600,000,000 newspapers, besides collecting 300,000, 000 local letters, 750,000,0000 mailletters, 115,000,000 local, and 150,000,000 mail

postal cards, and 200,000,000 newspaper His Flercest Engagement.
"Major, what was the flercestengagement in which you ever took part?
"My own, dear boy, to the Widow Gayer,"—Brooklyn Life-

Woman Ruler of the Country the French Have Just Conquered.

She Chews Strong Black Plug Tobacco, and Despite Her Barbarian Habits Affects Christianity.

Madagascar is a curious mixture. The Queen is a Christian, but she chews topacco and expectorates in a silver vase. Her husband is very proud of a French Legion of Honor collar which he wears night and day, but if any native should happen to express a favorable opinion of the French in his presence that native would very suddenly be wafted into eternity. The Queen has a fine, big Hible, plentifully emblazoned in gift, at her side at all times, but she orders the execution of an enemy with the calm demean that another woman orders her breakfast.

The Queen is seldom without a large chunk of tobacco in her mouth, and, as she sets the style in Madagascar, all of the court ladies, not to be outdone in the matter of fashion, also have large chunks of tobacco in their mouths. At a royal function where all the ladies are chewing tobacco industriously an American lady might be shocked. But the Madagascar ladies regard it as a rare accomplishment, and the society bods there are taught to chew with the same care that American parents teach their girls to dance or play upon the pinao. It is one of the polite arts there, and a lady who does not chew is as badly handicapped socially as a woman here who cats with

The Queen is called Ranavalona III. Her features cannot be called delicate, and in complexion she is pretty dark, much darker than most of her subjects Her figure is above medium height. She dresses in European garments, and upon vet and a crown of gold. Her usual residence is not the enormous three-story palace Moja Kamiadana, built for Ranaraiona I by a French architect, but a stone mansion hard by called the Palace of Masandro, arranged in good taste and with proper regard to comfort.

Her husband is something of a Napoleon. He is small and lean and rich. His wavy hair bespeaks his humble origin. Under an air of good fellowship, he conceals extreme energy, an iron will and much keen ness of intellect. Withat, he is an able politician. He lives in the Palace of Zano vola, called the Silver House, because when it was built for Prince Rakota, son of a former Queen, the Prince caused it to be studded with silver nails and furnished with silver locks.

The Premier King dresses plainly, save on great occasions, when he wears a dolman of white satin, embroidered with gold; short trousers, ending in white stockings with ribbon garters, great buskins, with very high heels, and suspended from his shoulder a cross belt, heavy with gold, which supports a sabre, whose scabbard of black leather is incrusted with gold.

The cause of the war which France is now waging against Madagascar is easily explained. The French are seeking to es tablish an actual protectorate over the whole island, with the ultimate design, undoubtedly, of annexing it outright. The Hovas deny that in the treaty of peace they signed with France in 1885, or in an other document, they ever gave France the right to assume a protectorate over the island. The overtures for peace in 1885 again and again broke down because the Hovas would not have the obnoxious word in the treaty, or anything that could be twisted to mean the surrender of the sovereign rights of the Queen.

This treaty was accepted by the Malagasy only when the French governmen eager to end the war in which the Frenchmen had perished like sheep in the deadly of the coast without gaining single advantage for their country an thorized the French plenipotentiary to dispense with the word "protectorate."

France was to represent Madagasca in her foreign relations and the Queen was to govern the whole island except few small districts on the coast and the near-by islands which France had acquired

from 1821 to 1885. But France has chosen to treat her agreement with Madagascar as the thin edge of the wedge leading to a protect torate. Her resident at the capital has been accused of meddling with the Queen's land concessions and with consular juris diction. The Hovas say he has put his finger into all sorts of domestic affairs, and he brought many French soldiers to

the capital, though by the treaty he had

a right to bring fifty soldiers and no more to guard the residency. Matters went from bad to worse, and finally, pear the close of last year, the resident demanded on behalf of France tectorate," that the French should hav the right to plant garrisons where they d to do so, and that no concession should be valid unless approved by the resident. The Hovas refused to yield to these demands, the resident withdrew in high dudgeon to the coast, and the French

began preparations for the war. The natives have the most absolute and abiding faith in their Queen. The crafty prime minister nourishes and encourages this belief, and to an outsider the power of the Queen seems unlimited. But she is only the mouthpiece of her busband, and she carries out his ideas with an energy thustasm. She was crowned on her twenty second birthday, in November of 1883 and is not quite thirty-five years old. sive moves the national assembly of the country was then in progress, and the Queen, under the direction of her husband seized the opportunity to stir up patriot ism among her subjects.

On this occasion she stood up in the enter of 50,000 of her subjects, and ing a sword above her head declared that ould lead her soldiers to war against the French. Continuing she said: want peace with all the world. We lov peace and hate war, but we will fight antil we die to keep the land God gave us and our fathers preserved. The French are landing on our coast to efface our flag, to destroy our government and to make us merely a part of themselves. Oh, the shame of it! We have sought no war with France, but we will fight till every hom is burned and every man has perished b fore we will submit to such a diserner What Hova is there who cares to survive

On November 11 begins the new year in the Malagasy calendar, and the tenth day of the new year is always celebrated in extraordinary fashion. Business is spended and the sovereign con that epemies become friends for at least obeyed that wives return to their diopeyed that wives return to their di-vorced husbands. Gifts are exchanged the country over. At 8 o'clock on the evening of November 21 there is a salvo of artillery, and the native dignarities.

along with distinguished Europeans, hasten to the Palace of Silver: There the Queed in found enthroned upon a dais covered with red velvet The servants of the Queen file past, offering presents. Then the prime minister makes a long speech, reviewing the events of the year just closed, praising the virtues of the Queen, and holding up to the people the wisdom of her government, which is the wisdom of her government, which to his own. As he reviews each act of government he asks whether it was just and right, and the shouted reply from ed company is "Marnier izay!"

When the speech is done, the relatives of the Queen, from her oldest uncle down to her timest nephew, file before her, bearing spoons for preparing the traditional rice Before the rice is presented the Queen dis-appears behind a curtained screen, where a basin of warm water has been made ready, and takes a bath. The cannon an nounces that the purification of the royal is complete, and the Queen, having iressed, returns to the throne. She bears now an ox horn filled with water from he bath. Having wet her fingers in the water, she streaks her forehead with different caste marks, and, baving sprinkled thos round about, she solemnly cats several spoonfuls of rice, the first cooked in the country since the opening of the new year. This ends the official fete, but it is continued next day and for several days there-after by the people throughout the coun-try with various observances and much eal. The Queen lets loose in the street of the capital half a dozen fat cattle, which are madly pursued by the people, the man to seize and bring down one of the beasts becoming its possessor.

COLLEGE BUBLICATIONS.

Well Edited and Neatly Printed Jour nals All.

In nothing is the advance of higher edu cation in Washington more clearly shown than in the evolution of the various col lege journals. A few years ago the editors were content to issue mere circulars, de voted to personals, educational statis-tics and a few athletic notes. Now our universities publish first-class magazines full of interesting reading and gotten up in the most creditable style in regard to ty pography.

In the case of Howard, this latter item is especially noteworthy, as the compo sition, proof-reading and display are all done by the students in their own office. The Bulletin of the Catholic University is an able quarterly magazine.

The last issue of the Georgetown Jour sal, the first under the new ship, is splendid. This number has several beautiful flustrations in the best photo gravure style. This idea is to stimulate and develop the artistic sense, and at the same time to impress more deeply the ideas gathered in a classical course.

In the present number the pictures are

Phidias' sthine of Aristotle, Bramante's School of Athens, showing splendidly the beautiful sweep and grandeur of Greek architecture and many portraitures of eminent men of the old academy. Besides hese, in lighter vein, is "Under North Cape." The proportions of this majestic headland are nobly revealed, and the tender radiance of the sea softens its rug

The Columbian is following in the good work, as its classes at their inaugural meeting earnestly discussed the foundation of such a journal.

Shooting at a Balloon.

The use of the balloon for dispatch carry ng and for military reconncissance is likely to play a great part in the next war. Its only drawback is the fact that its hige size makes it a splendid target, and the equally damaging fact that, being chiefly a collapsible gasbag, a shot-hole in any part of its great bulk brings it down. For this reason a good deal of uncertainty has existed in the minds of military men as to the usefulness of the balloon in campaign-

Recent experiments in Austria, however, are calculated to give great comfort to the aeronauts, and to show that the objection just mentioned is not so great as might at first be supposed. These experiments had for their object the determination of how asy it would be to hit a balloon in the air. if would be to life a barksmen as light inke the task of the marksmen as light asible, captive balloons were used, that as possible, captive balloons were used, that s, the balloons are tethered to the ground

In one case such a balloon, at a height of 4.265 feet, or more than three-quarters of a mile, was fired at from a distance of 4.460 yards—two and a half miles—and was struck nine times without being brought Another time a captive balloon 2.625 feet high was attacked from a dis 2.625 feet high was attacked from a dis-tance of 5.500 yards, or more than three miles, and was not brought down until after the fifty-sixth round. In this case a heavy gale made the balloon plunge and rendered aim very difficult.—Exchange.

A Group of Little Chaus.

A Harlem man calls his wife misery ecause she likes company. - Texas Siftings Never judge of appearances—a ten-dollar dude may have a two-dollar salary —Texas

One of our carpenters is so humane that he objects to hanging a door or driving a nail -Texas Siftings. There are some cities which would neve

be heard of were it not for their baseball nines.-Texas Siftines "Why don't you marry that girl? She is a real pearl." "Ab, yes, but I don't like the mother of pearl."-Fliegende Blatter.

Mollie-Do you like trolley parties?" Dollie-I just love 'em. You krow I'm energed to one; be's a motorman -Yonk-

Customer-These trousers don't sit just right about the hips. Tailor-They're all right-what you need is something more in the pockets.-Chicago Record.

Bingo-I want to change the combination of that house-safe of mine. Safe-man-What's the matter? Servants found out the old number? Bingo My wife has, Brooklyn Life.

Blevins-I am delighted to see you! But what a stormy night for a call! Fos tick (hanging up his dripping coat)-I know it is had, but it is an iceal night for finding people at home -New York Trutt That surly sign, "Keep off the grass!" Soon we thall tee, as oft before, Its rude successor. "Shut the door!"

-Chicago Times-Herald.

"For the life of me, I cannot see why people think it to cemical a thirg for a man to get married," complained the young man who was on his bridal tour. "Nor me, neither," remarked the passenger with the white whiskers. I may state furder that I have with the white whiskers, "An" marrit twelve years."-Cincinnati En-

That Cottage by the Sea. It's been written up in story-it's been sung in numbers sweet; It has captivated thousands with its sym-

metry complete.

Like a dream from the Atlantic, it has risen fair and free, its beauty—so romantic—has "The Cottage by the Sea." ut it's like a dream-a vision-though the

poets sing it so; It might have been Elysian half a hundred It might have been Engels.

years ago;
But now it's full of business—when that cottage you shall seek.

You will find the sign up: "Boarders, Twenty dollars by the week!"

- A Vanta Constitution.

a Better Chance Than Now.

He Believes the Double Struggle for an Education Brings Out All There in the Students

"The poor young men at college are not disappearing element in college life," said the president. "On the other hand, I believe that the number of students who support themselves in part or in fact wholly is constantly increasing. I am not myself possessed of exact statistics as to the number of men who support themselves wholly or in part when going through college, but it is very large, much larger than the outsider who gets only a super ficial view of matters would believe. But without statistics I feel quite sure in saying that the the number is larger than it ever was before and is increasing every

poor young men at Yale increases as well as does the number. Perhaps Yale has to a certain extent more of the poor young men than other colleges. Of course, there are a large number of very wealthy ones. note of them in every entering class, bu that is accounted for merely by the greatly ncreasing wealth of the country.

"I wish I had the figures here so that

we might compare statistics of the classes of 1894 and 1895. Possibly I feel a special interest in the poor young man myself, and his struggles for a good footbold at Yale. So, on the whole, I do not believe that Yale is growing to be less of a 'poor man's col ge' than formerly. It is only growing in this way as it has done in every other

President Dwight then spoke of the opportunities there were for a young man to help himself along. He spoke in a way that clearly indicated his full acquaintance with every branch of this study.

are turned out in which ever-present is not always an unpleasant one.

standing well in their classes.

The president appeared quite positive on

"As to the question of the effect upon the character of a poor young man of this double struggle for education and for support there is little doubt of that. It can be but for the best, for, no matter how hard his struggle, he is independent. He feels his independence, and soon he becomes self-reliant, and is perhaps better able to face the world at the end of four years than some of those who have not been through the poor young nun's experiences. And again, he will more fully appreciate the education which he has obtained. It will be for him a great success, as well as a preparation for that which is to come after the graduation. His character is ben efited by the struggle rather than harmed

President Dwight was then asked if he had any special advice which he would give

save this: Come to college if you can The poor young man will be pre able to get through somehow. As I have said, large numbers of them do so every year. Yes, I should advise the poor young man to come to college if it is at all possible. He is sure to get through, as others

This was the single sentence of advice "Come to college if you possibly can," that the president had for the benefit of the poor young man, but it seemed to ex-

ress his sentiments exactly.
"As for the young men from the country. I do not think they are larger in number than the young men from the cities. I should think they stood as good a chance. The question of the young men in ath leties was then spoken of. A brief mention

was made of football, "With regard to football," said President omething he must settle for himself."

Russia's Penal Code. Russia is about to promulgate a reformed penal code upon which experts have been at work for the past fourteen years Alexander III appointed in 1881 a commission to prepare the new code. A previous commission had reported the need of an improved code after preparing the law of February 27, 1879, upon the general administrations of prisons. The com dission, working through a committee of empire and those of the most enlightened ountries and studied them in the light of the most recent theories upon the subject The code, when finally promulgated, will replace the code of capital and correctional replace the code of capital and offrections punishment bearing date 1845, but since much amended. It will also supersede the penal code of justices of the peace pub-lished in 1864.

POOR YOUNG MEN AT COLLEGE A \$4.50 **JACKET**

President Dwight Thinks They Never Had

President Dwight, of Yale, has just been

"Not only this, but the percentage of

"Tutoring." continued President Dwight, "furnishes perhaps the best chance for at least partial support of a college young man. It is far more extensively carried on than ever before, and on the account of the employment it provides, if for no other rea-son, does considerable good. Then there are all sorts of things many young men can do which willbring them in money. Some have worked regularly a few hours every day. Possibly this is a satisfactory way. A number turn to writing as an aid, and contribute to magazines and papers. There is no doubt of success. Year after year classes find the poor young man who has had a struggle through college, and the struggle

Mention was then made of an article upon "College Life" which President Dwight had previously written for a magazine in which he had lightly touched upon the question of the struggles of the poor young

"No." replied President Dwight to a uestion. "I do not consider that the poor roung man's bealth is usually seriously or at all injured by the extra work he goes through. Of course, he can overwork, but such young men usually turn out as well as others who do not do extra work. Everything in this line depends upon the young man himself. His studies are possibly no so well prepared. What effect it may have upon them I am not sure, but I do not beeve but that if he is in earnest he can do Every year such men leave college. many with high honors, most of them

"Nor do I believe they are considered so-

this point. He added: "There is no place where a man is more esteemed for what he is and what he does than at college. The man who in part sup ports bimself is just as much respected as ose who have easier times in their college year.

to this class of young men.
"None," said the president, with a smile

Dwight, "I cannot say so much. Possibly I do not know so much about this as I do about other branches of the question. I presume," he added, smilingly, "that the poor young man enjoys playing football as well as other young men, and that if he can he will play it. That is a question for the poor young man himself to answer.

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Good Reserved Seat, 20 Cents-FAGIN'S KITCHEN

Trap Door That Is One of the Relics of Old London.

Charley Bates opened the door of the place for me, though I did not know until afterward that that was his name, says the London Graphic. He was a thin old gentleman, very shaky-so shaky, indeed, that he had to get me to turn the key of the house in Saffron Hill, of which he is the caretaker, and he has the odd, anaemic look of one who might have lodged in the cellar ever since the days of Fagin and the Artful Dodger. It was he himself who called my attention to this foke of coincidence while I was looking over the house in Saffron Hill where the thieves' kitchen was. It-has been condemned by the county council and is shortly to be pulled down

"The clergyman from next door," said he—an odd little church is wedged in close to Fagin's house—asked me the other day what my Christian name was. I told him 'Charley-Charley Bates,' and says he. 'Why, that's the name of the gentle-man who was born 'ere in "Oliver Twist." Well, that is odd,' says he. I tell you they had a fair good laugh about it."

The house, a tumtledown shop, with The house, a tumbelown shop, with the shutters up at present, looks compara-tively respectable from the outside, al-though a little out of place in that part of Saffron Hill, where it is situated. Inside it is the last place which one would identify as Fagin's kitchen. Upstairs there are some broken-windowed bedrooms, and

some broken-windowed bedrooms, and some other rooms papered with unexpected neatness and cleanliness. The ground floor is, so far as filth goes, much more in keeping with one's preconceived ideas. On the wooden walls are daubs of paint, as if some scene painter had been using them for his palette.

"It belonged to a chap named Smith," said Charley Butes, explanatorily, "a feller as made barrers and then sold 'emortet be mout. He took the place for a three years' agreement, which he didn't keep, for we couldn't get no rent out of him. That was a nice thing, wasn't it, after all

for we constant get no rent out of him.
That was a nice thing, wasn't it, after all
his fine promises, and just look how he hasleft the place! Dirt everywhere. Disgusting, ain't it?"
I said I should like to see the kitchen.
Mr. Bates said be hadn't been down there for a couple years, and it was very rough getting down. However, he would get me a box of matches, and if I dich' tmind break-ing my blessed neck, why I could go and have a look for myself. I took the box of matches and ground my

and groped my way down; it was "very rough," and most impressively dirty. The walls had fallen away; there was no floor to speak of and the murky depths were lit by light filtering through a grating. The steps were, as Mr. Bates observed, "blessed steep."

This here," said Mr. Bates, pointing to the floring and weekley. This here," Faid Mr. Bates, pointing to the flooring and sweeping away some shav-ings, "is the trapdoor where they used to get down to it."

Whether by "they" he meant the lamented Mr. Smith, who made "barrers" without

paying his rent, I am not cuite sure, but I

thanked Mr. Pates for his compani

and was quite sorry to part from so cheer, and chatty an old gentleman. Old Acquaintances.

He (in the drapery line)—Er—haven't we not before?

She-Yes, on the last remnant day .- St

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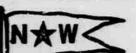
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